

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 038410
ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY AF:KHSMITH:MN

APPROVED BY AF:DBBOLEN

-----190235 105849 /70

O 190123Z FEB 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 038410

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOR AMB TALCOTT W. SEELYE

FOL REPEAT KHARTOUM 577 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 18 FEB.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0577

FOR AMB SEELYE (AF)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJ: TRAVEL AMBASSADOR SEELYE

1. HAVE JUST BEEN TOLD (TEN P.M. LOCAL) BY FONOFF USEC OSMAN
THAT FONMIN MANSUR KHALID HAD ASKED HIM INFORM ME TOMORROW,
SATURDAY, THAT IT WOULD BE GREATLY PREFERRED IF YOU COULD POSTPONE
YOUR TRIP HERE. SADAT/ASSAD/NIMEIRI "SUMMIT" IS DEFINITELY ON FOR
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FEB. 27 AND OSMAN WAS UNCLEAR HOW LONG IT MIGHT LAST OR WHETHER
THERE MIGHT BE FOLLOW-UP VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA. IN CIRCUMSTANCES,
BOTH NIMEIRI AND KHALID WOULD BE HEAVILY ENGAGED DURING DAYS YOU
PLANNED BE HERE. I NOTED YOUR SCHEDULE INVOLVED MANY STOPS AND
RESCHEDULING KHARTOUM FOR LATER MIGHT PROVE IMPOSSIBLE.
IN THAT CASE, I WONDERED IF GOS WOULD OBJECT TO YOUR ARRIVING
ON DATES INDICATED, EVEN THOUGH SENIOR OFFICIALS MIGHT UNDERSTAND-

ABLY BE UNAVAILABLE. OSMAN INDICATED HE THOUGHT PREFERENCE WAS FOR DEFERRAL YOUR DATES HERE.

2. COMMENT: WITH DENG HAVING JUST LEFT FOR NEW YORK, AND BONA MALWAL OFF FOR LOME FEB 21, NIMEIRI AND KHALID ARE ONLY ONES WHO COUNT HERE AT MOMENT IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS FIELD. OSMAN IS NEW AND LITTLE MORE THAN STAFF MAN. NIMEIRI HAS BEEN TIRED (HE CANCELLED HIS ENGAGEMENTS FOR TWO DAYS EARLY IN WEEK) AND KHALID IS JUST BACK FROM MAJOR FIVE-DAY MISSION TO RIYADH. THEIR PREFERENCE FOR DEFERRAL THUS UNDERSTANDABLE EVEN THOUGH WE CANNOT RULE OUT THAT THEY ALSO WOULD NOT WISH THEIR NON-ALIGNED CREDENTIALS BE CALLED INTO QUESTION BY ARRIVAL SENIOR USG OFFICIAL ON EVE THEIR CHERISHED "SUMMIT". I WILL SEEK CLARIFY TOMORROW WHETHER KHALID WOULD OBJECT YOUR COMING AS PLANNED FOR CONTACTS WITH EMBASSY BUT MEANWHILE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE AS TO WHETHER YOU COULD IN FACT MODIFY YOUR SCHEDULE AT THIS LATE DATE. NIMEIRI WILL BE IN WEST SUDAN FEB 24 AND IN JUBA MARCH 2-3-4.

3. IN EVENT YOU UNABLE MAKE IT HERE, WOULD WELCOME OPPORTUNITY MEET YOU SOMEWHERE ON YOUR ITINERARY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS HERE. APPRECIATE URGENT RESPONSE. BREWER

UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE038410
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: KHSMITH:MN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770059-0541
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770224/aaaaavgz.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 185bf2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3274143
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL AMBASSADOR SEELYE
TAGS: OVIP, APER, (SEELYE)
To: LONDON NAIROBI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/185bf2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009